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APR **03** 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

April 3, 2012

Mr. Jeff Derouen, Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

> Re: Case No. 2011-00375

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Via Hand Delivery

Please find enclosed the original and ten (10) copies of the BRIEF OF KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC. for filing in the above-referenced matter. By copy of this letter, all parties listed on the Certificate of Service have been served.

Please place this document of file.

Very Truly Yours,

Michael L. Kurtz, Esq. Kurt J. Boehm, Esq.

**BOEHM, KURTZ & LOWRY** 

Attachment

Certificate of Service

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served by mailing a true and correct copy via electronic mail (when available) and by first-class postage prepaid mail, to all parties on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2012.

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#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of:

JOINT APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY AND KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY OF PUBLIC
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND SITE COMPATIBILITY
CERTIFICATE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMBINED
CYCLE COMBUSTION TURBINE AT THE CANE RUN
GENERATING STATION AND THE PURCHASE OF EXISTING
SIMPLE CYCLE COMBUSTION TURBINE FACILITIES FROM
BLUEGRASS GENERATION COMPANY, LLC IN LAGRANGE,
KENTUCKY

BRIEF OF
KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Comes now, Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc. ("KIUC") and submits this Brief concerning Louisville Gas & Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company's (collectively "the Companies") proposal in the above-captioned matter. KIUC did not pre-file testimony in this proceeding, but takes the following positions with regard to the arguments submitted by the Companies and intervenors, Sierra Club and the National Resource Defense Counsel ("NRDC").

### II. ARGUMENT

1. KIUC Does Not Oppose The Companies' Proposal To Replace A Portion Of Its Coal Generation Fleet With New And Existing Natural Gas Units.

KIUC does not oppose the Companies' proposal to retire six coal-fired generating units at the Cane Run, Tyrone and Green River generating stations and to meet the resultant capacity shortfall by building a natural gas combined-cycle facility at Cane Run and purchasing three existing single-cycle combustion turbines from Bluegrass Generation in Oldham County. The evidence introduced by the Companies indicates that this plan is reasonable and cost effective given new EPA regulations effecting coal generating units and the current low price of natural gas.

2. KIUC Opposes The Position Of The Sierra Club And The NRDC That The Retired Coal-Fired Units Can Be Reasonably Replaced With A Combination Of Wind Generation Purchases And Demand Side Management.

KIUC does not agree with the arguments of the Sierra Club and the NRDC that the capacity shortfall created by the retirement of six of the Companies' coal-fired units can reasonably be made up through some combination of wind generation purchases and demand side management ("DSM"). There is compelling evidence in this case that the wind generation bid in response to the Companies' RFP is not cost effective compared to the Companies' plan, and comes with inherent availability concerns that make it not a satisfactory replacement for the Companies' retired capacity.

Additionally, Sierra Club and NRDC's proposal to expand the DSM program to include the industrial customer class would violate KRS 278.285(3), and fails to account for the fact that industrial load is inherently different than most residential and commercial load with respect to DSM. The Companies' large industrial load is not the untapped DSM resource that the Sierra Club and the NRDC imagine it to be.

A relatively small portion of industrial electric load derives from the type of power consumption

that is easily targeted by utility DSM and energy efficiency programs. Whereas a large portion of

residential and commercial load is consumed by lighting, and other simple devices that are the typical

targets of DSM and energy efficiency programs; lighting, cooling etc. make up a relatively small portion

of a typical large industrial load. Most of the electricity consumed by large industrial customers is used in

the complicated machinery that is a part of the manufacturing process. KRS 278.285(3) acknowledges

that a utility-run DSM program cannot increase the efficiency of these complicated manufacturing

processes better than the engineers and plant managers that are employed by the industrial customer. A

utility or third-party DSM expert cannot reasonably walk into a steel mill or auto manufacturing plant and

identify inefficiencies in those complicated manufacturing processes.

KRS 278.285(3) also recognizes that the national and international markets that large industrial

customers compete in already provide ample incentive for Kentucky's large industrial customers to

minimize costs through DSM and energy efficiency efforts. If there were "low-hanging fruit," from an

energy efficiency prospective, at large industrial facilities it is safe to assume that these sophisticated

energy consumers have identified and addressed them long ago.

Respectfully submitted

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